

AUG 1956

CPYRGHT

FOIAb3b

CPYRGHT

# CIA Operator Tells of 5-Hour Lie Test on Security Matter

By CLARK MOLLENHOFF

Minneapolis Tribune Staff Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D.C. —

Hans V. Tofte, a star clandestine operator in the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), said Thursday he underwent a five-hour lie detector test in 1956 on a security matter.

The 55-year-old former Iowan said Thursday he was "given full clearance" following "that bit of silly business" during which the CIA questioned whether he might have Communist leanings because of long employment with the East Asiatic Co., a Danish trading firm.

The CIA Security Division had wanted him to take a five minute lie detector test, and Tofte insisted that they "give me the full business."

"WHEN THEY didn't ask the proper questions, I even suggested that they ask the nastiest questions possible," Tofte said. "I wanted this whole thing gone into thoroughly, and I wanted this silly question about the East Asiatic Co. cleared up."

Tofte, a native of Denmark, declared that the East Asiatic Co. in Denmark "is like General Motors, Ford, Prudential Insurance and General Electric all rolled into one, in this country."

"There isn't any doubt that there are some Communists who infiltrate the overseas operations of a lot of big firms, and I know that there is Communist infiltration of some of the overseas branches of some of the biggest U.S. firms today," Tofte said.

"THAT DOESN'T make the firms Communist, and it certainly doesn't mean that everyone who works for these firms for any extended period of time are Communists."

"This is some of the silly business that goes on in that agency from time to time," Tofte said. "I took the lie detector tests, and I was cleared and went back to my normal duties after a period of suspension while they ran the tests."

Tofte declared that there have been several times in his career when "I have been under fire" on disciplinary problems.

After his wartime work in the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) in Yugoslavia, he and several other officers were in trouble, and "it was a close question as to whether we would be court-martialed or decorated for bravery."

In that case, the problems



United Press International

## TOFTE READ CIA SUSPENSION NOTICE

*Poodles Brigitte and Robby-Old-Boy in park*

of discipline for not following instructions were cast aside because of an effective gun-running operation and Tofte was decorated by Denmark, the United States and Yugoslavia.

The CIA formally suspended Tofte Wednesday pending an investigation of an alleged security violation in his taking home CIA papers.

HE RECEIVED notification in a letter delivered to his home by a CIA messenger, and did not open the envelope until he had taken his two poodle dogs for a walk.

Later, he informed Howard

Osborne, director of security for CIA, that he would be in Monday to discuss the problem.

He informed the agency representative that he had "personal things to do," including discussions with Washington police in connection with the theft of \$20,000 in jewels owned by Mrs. Tofte.

Mrs. Tofte was interviewed again by two detectives concerning the theft of the jewels during the same weekend CIA officials visited the home and took the CIA papers and some of Tofte's private papers from a third floor library.

CPYRGHT

CPYRGHT